

John Christian Bach
11. son of J.C.B.
organist of Milan
came to England in 1757
2 years remained
till 1759
1763



MS 4313b 2/4

The overpowering might of Handel so absorbed the attention of the Musical public that hardly any one else had a chance. The ~~of~~ exclusive attention which he gave to Oratorio in the latter part of his career and the peculiar taste of the public also gave such prominence to Oratorio that some modern Operas also met with little favour. Some composers tried ~~that~~ their hands at Oratorios, but they had neither the gift nor the breadth of view to make much of a success with it, and the history of English art till the recent revival is not very enticing to contemplate. Composers who achieved anything sufficiently notable to take rank in the highest walks of art are singularly few. In the time we are immediately concerned with, Anne & Boyce stand almost alone. ~~Boyer's~~ ^{and were therefore} They were both born in 1710, a quarter of a century younger than Handel. Boyce's larger works were in the line of Oratorio, ^(Druid's demonstration 1740. Solomon 1743) and therefore do not concern us now. Anne tried his hand at large secular works, & wrote a few Operas in Italian lines. He is

notable in his best works for his essential English Musical
character. He had in a remarkable degree a gift of
timeliness; & that timeliness essentially of the character
of the English popular tunes of the day; which are of the
most past-superlative good, & form the most comforting trait
in the Musical life of the period. Arne was intended
for a scholar, but his disposition for music was too strong &
he suppressed. He began with the setting of an Opera of
Addison's Rosamund, which came out at Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre in
1733. He wrote music of several plays. One of
of his best works was the Music of an adaptation
of Milton's Measure of Commerce, which came out at Drury
Lane Theatre in 1738. He also produced a Measure called
Alfred in the same year, which is chiefly notable as containing
the famous song 'Rule Britannia'. The famous song 'Where the
sunk' made its first appearance ~~in~~ in his Music written
for Shakespeare's Tempest, performed at Drury Lane in 1746. He
also wrote two Operas ^{after} the Italian ~~the~~ manner. Antionus
produced in 1760 - which had a long life. & ¹⁷⁶⁵ Olinthus, which
had a very short one. He died 1778.

